



The Bay Leaf

California Native Plant Society • East Bay Chapter • Alameda & Contra Costa Counties

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Plant Sale Activities, p. 3

Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17, 24, 9 am to noon, Merritt College, Propagation/Potting Sessions

Saturday, February 7, 9:00 – noon, last chance to buy plants remaining from the October sale (rain date: Saturday, February 14)

Chapter Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 4, 7:30 pm, home of Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna Street, Berkeley

Native Here, p. 6

Fridays, February 6, 13, 20, 27, Native Here Nursery

Open 9-noon

Saturdays, February 7, 14, 21, 28, Native Here Nursery

Open 10-1

Native Plant Restoration Team, p 4.

Saturday, February 7, 1-4 pm, "Generations at San Leandro Creek", Canyon Elementary School

Saturday, March 6, 9:30-12:30 pm, San Pablo Creek at El Sobrante Library

Field Trips, p. 3

Sunday, February 15, 2004, Redwood Regional Park in Oakland. Meet at the Redwood Gate Parking Area, off Redwood Road, at 2:00 pm.

Saturday, February 28, 2004, Mt. Diablo, 9:30 am

Membership Meeting, see below

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Plants of the Siskiyou Mountains and Mount Eddy

Speaker: **Ted Kipping**

Wednesday, February 25, 2004, 7:30 pm

Conference Center, University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley (directions below)

In 1949, plant ecologist Robert Whittaker began the first comprehensive study of plant distribution in the Siskiyou Mountains of northwestern California and southwestern Oregon. Eleven years later, he published his findings in *Vegetation of the Siskiyou Mountains, Oregon and California* and brought this exceptional region to the attention of botanists and ecologists throughout the U.S. and the world. Describing the Klamath-Siskiyou area, Whittaker wrote, "The region possesses a greater diversity of forest communities, in a more complex vegetation pattern, than any comparable area of the West."

The exceptionally rich flora of the Siskiyou Mountains results from an unusual combination of factors producing a great diversity of habitats and environmental niches. The climate of the region is broadly variable, with winter snow and rain and wide-ranging summer temperatures. Geologically, the area is old and com-

plex. Parent rocks vary from granitics to metamorphics, including serpentinite, and provide a wide array of substrates for a vast diversity of plant species. In addition, the unusual east-west orientation of the range has been the only connection between the Cascade Mountains to the east and the coast ranges to the west and thus has served as a corridor for plant migration in times of global climate change. Finally, the area has escaped extensive glaciation during recent ice ages, providing a refuge for numerous plant taxa. These factors combine to create a complex mosaic of habitats and a botanical diversity that have led the World Conservation Union to recognize the region as an "Area of Global Botanical Significance" (one of only seven in North America).

Mount Eddy, the highest peak in the Klamath Mountains and the largest serpentine outcrop in North America, rises just west of Mount Shasta. Its flora includes many Klamath Mountains endemics as well as many serpentine endemics of the Trinity Mountains. Its upper elevations provide beautiful and diverse wild-flower displays in the summer and spectacular views of Mount Shasta.

continued on page 2

Membership Meeting, continued from page 1

This month's speaker, Ted Kipping, will take us on a photographic tour of the botanical riches of the Siskiyou Mountains and Mount Eddy. Ted is a Life Member in CNPS, the Sierra Club and many other botanical and horticultural organizations, a certified arborist and consulting arborist by profession, a naturalist by passion, and a photographer by inclination.

East Bay Chapter CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting will take place in the Conference Center of the University of California Botanical Garden on Centennial Drive, east of Memorial Stadium and west of the Lawrence Hall of Science, above the main campus of the University of California in Berkeley. The Garden gate will open at 7:00 pm; the meeting begins at 7:30

pm. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Rosenthal, 510-496-6016 or rosacalifornica@earthlink.net if you have any questions.

Upcoming Programs

Wednesday, March 24, 2004, 7:30 pm, (at the U.C. Botanical Garden at Berkeley):
Jan Southworth—Backyard Butterfly Gardening

Wednesday, April 28, 2004, 7:30 pm, (at the U.C. Botanical Garden at Berkeley): David Chipping, Conservation Director, California Native Plant Society

Sue Rosenthal

Grants Committee

Each year, the East Bay Chapter awards scholarships and supports projects. The money for these grants comes from the Chapter's plant sale.

Project Grants Made in 2003

The Grants Committee is pleased to announce that the Chapter is funding the following projects:

- The Merritt College horticulture intern program
- Calflora
- CHIA, a group in Berkeley working on restoring coastal prairie along the BART tracks in Berkeley
- Dr. William Graves of Iowa State University for a project examining the genetics of leatherwood (*Dirca occidentalis*) in the East Bay. Dr. Graves has expressed a willingness to talk about his work in person and we can look forward to hearing him next fall.
- CalEPPC's Cape ivy program, which is working to develop biocontrol for Cape ivy. Much of this work is conducted in South Africa, the ivy's native land and the presumed residence of insects which dine on it and which are suitable for release here.

Project Grants for 2004

The Grants Committee also makes grants to support scholarly, scientific, and conservation projects relating to the East Bay. Preference is given to projects in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, although other projects will be considered. The Committee will next consider project proposals in the fall of 2004. The ap-

plication deadline will be October 1, 2004, although time-sensitive projects may be considered on an ad hoc basis at any time. The Grants Committee will announce the application process over the summer.

Scholarships

Our chapter will award five scholarships of \$1200 each to undergraduate or graduate students in botany, horticulture, and related fields interested in working with California native plants. An outstanding candidate will be awarded the Myrtle Wolf Scholarship.

The Grants Committee recommends that chapter members make donations to support the Myrtle Wolf Scholarship. Preference is given to students working in, or working with plants in, Alameda and Contra Costa counties, although other applications will be considered.

Application Deadline is April 15, 2004

Applicants should submit the following information:

1. Your name and present address;
2. The school you are now attending;
3. The address where you can be reached at the close of school (particularly in May and June);
4. The school you will be attending in the summer or fall of 2004;
5. A description of your work with California native plants to date and your plans for future work with California native plants;

6. Two letters of recommendation that substantiate your work with California native plants; and
7. A current transcript from the school you last attended.

Send your application by April 15, 2004 to:
 The California Native Plant Society, East Bay Chapter
 Grants Committee
 c/o McCoy
 1311 Bay View Place
 Berkeley, CA 94708
 By e-mail: wbmccoy@earthlink.net (please put "EBCNPS Scholarship" in the subject line).

I would like to thank the members of the Grants Committee Holly Forbes, Peter Rauch, Phoebe Watts, Shirley McPheeters, Roy West, John Game, and Tony Morosco.

Sandy McCoy, Grants Committee Coordinator

Plant Sale Activities

Propagation/Potting Sessions:



Tuesdays
 February 3, 10, 17, 24
 9 am to noon
 Merritt College
 Landscape Horticulture
 Parking fee: 50 cents

Rain does not cancel.

Everyone is welcome for all or part of the work sessions. Dress warmly.

Last chance to buy plants remaining from the October sale:

Saturday, February 7, 9:00 – noon
 Rain date: Saturday, February 14

For more information: 925-376-4095

Shirley McPheeters

Field Trips

Sunday, February 15, 2004, **Redwood Regional Park in Oakland**. Meet **David Margolies** at the Redwood Gate Parking Area, off Redwood Road, at 2:00 pm.

Redwood Regional Park contains a portion of the redwood groves in the East Bay. Thoroughly logged in the 19th and early 20th centuries, it provides a good example of second

growth redwood forest, along with oak/bay woodland and chaparral. We will walk along the Stream Trail and the Bridal Trail and go up the canyon side, in about a 2-3 mile loop, discussing redwood ecology and looking at the other native trees and shrubs found in the park. We will also look for (and perhaps see) rainbow trout in the stream.

Directions: the main entrance, Redwood Gate, is on Redwood Road in Oakland about a quarter mile northwest of Pinehurst Road. From San Francisco, take the Bay Bridge, staying to the right (**but do not go to San Jose**). Take 580 East, and then 24 East (towards Walnut Creek). Take the 13 South exit from 24. From the northern East Bay, get on 13 South (go east on Ashby Avenue in Berkeley, for example). From the Walnut Creek area, take 24 West (toward San Francisco), and exit soon after the tunnel onto 13 South. From Oakland, go east on 35th Avenue (which turns into Redwood Road). From the southern East Bay, take 580 West to 13 North, and exit at Redwood Road (immediately after the junction).

Take the Redwood Road exit and go east (uphill). At the top of the hill you will cross Skyline Boulevard and pass various equestrian facilities. Go down into the valley. About two miles miles from Skyline Boulevard, turn left into Redwood Regional Park. Go to the parking lot at the end of the access road. If you need further information, please contact David Margolies, 510-654-0283, divaricatum@aol.com.

Sunday February 22, **Joaquin Miller Park**, Oakland. 10:00 am, **Chris Thayer** will lead a **mushroom/plant walk**.

Fungi, many of which produce large fruiting bodies (sporocarps, a.k.a. mushrooms), play a vital role in the survival of virtually all flowering plants. Meet at the parking lot of the Sequoia Arena on Skyline Boulevard in Joaquin Miller Park. From Highway 13, exit at Joaquin Miller Road and proceed east approximately 1 mile to Skyline Boulevard. Turn left and go about one half mile or so, and turn left into the Sequoia Arena lot (a short drive west from Skyline.) We will also have the opportunity to see western leatherwood and pallid manzanita, two of our local rarities, which should be in full bloom. Only the heaviest rain will cancel.

Saturday, February 28, 2004, **Mt. Diablo**, 9:30 am **Jim Shevock** will lead a bryophyte field trip, starting from the **Rock City** area of Mt. Diablo State Park. Bryophytes are non-vascular plants, such as mosses, liverworts, and hornworts. Because of their small size, hand lenses, magnifying lenses, or high-magnification camera lenses provide the best viewing. This half-day trip will start from the Rock City picnic area. Readers of the January *Bay Leaf* will find a set of directions in the listing for the lichen field trip on January 31. With luck, the next *Fremontia* issue will be out by February 28; it will focus on bryophytes. Heavy rain cancels.

Meet at the Rock City area of Mt. Diablo. Coming from the North or South on Highway 680, watch for the Mt. Diablo signs and turn east on Diablo Road (South of Alamo). Drive east to the South Gate. Rock City is the first picnic area after the gate. This will be our starting point. We may reach the summit, which has a fire trail around it with many rock lichens. Bring a lunch.

Janet Gauthrop

Native Plant Restoration Team

E-mail reminders: Please contact Jim Sharp at itsa@dnai.com to receive a reminder message the week prior to Native Plant Restoration Team events.

Supplies and gear: For each work party, we ask that you wear long sleeves and pants, a hat, sturdy shoes, and bring water, favorite gloves and gardening tools. We do have some gloves and tools to lend.

Saturday, February 7, 1-4 pm, "Generations at San Leandro Creek", Canyon Elementary School

Kids, Creeks, Spring Flowers, and Newts! Weed wackin', newt anatomy and restoration planting **work party**

Directions: Canyon Elementary School, 187 Pinehurst Road, Canyon, 925-376-4671.

From Highway 13, exit at Park Boulevard, go left onto Park Boulevard, then left onto Mountain Boulevard, then right onto Snake Road. Go straight through intersection onto Shepard Canyon. After almost 2 miles, at Skyline Boulevard, cross over Skyline – Pinehurst Road is on the other side. Canyon School is on the left after about 3 miles. The school's parking lot is limited, but road-side parking is available.

Saturday, March 6, 9:30-12:30 pm

San Pablo Creek at El Sobrante Library

Join us for another joint work party with SPAWNERS (San Pablo Watershed Neighbors Education and Restoration Society) – weeding and replanting continues in the Native Plant Demonstration Garden at the El Sobrante Library. Please note that our starting time is 9:30 am.

Directions: Take the El Sobrante/San Pablo Dam Road exit off I-80, go east on the Dam Road for about 2 miles. Turn left onto Appian Way, then immediately left onto Garden Lane and left into the library parking lot. Bring your favorite gloves and garden tools (some are available to borrow too). Call Elizabeth at the Aquatic Outreach Institute at 510-231-9566 for more information about this project.

Questions or comments? Please call me at 510-558-8139.



San Pablo Creek at the El Sobrante Library

Sarah Ginskey

Conservation Committee

CNPS members served by the Contra Costa Water District will be confronted with a ballot measure N in early March. That measure is an “advisory” about replacing the existing Los Vaqueros Reservoir and Dam with an even larger reservoir and dam. CNPS is opposed to the measure. All of the purported benefits of the proposed dam are the benefits that the existing dam was created to provide. The water district made some real concessions to environmental and plant preservation concerns in the construction of the existing dam, with mitigations for loss of valley oak woodland and savannah. The proposed larger project might not be as attentive to such concerns. The feeling I get is that we “gave them an inch” on the existing dam, so they are proposing to “take a mile” since they got away with that.

Please read the information provided by the Committee to Stop Dam Waste and **vote NO on measure N**.

The Conservation Committee needs members who are willing to actively protect native plants in their communities. Yes, the plants in plant communities, and the ground they grow on in human communities. Attending meetings, reading and commenting on documents is a key set of activities. If that isn’t something that you feel up to or that appeals to you, the committee could also use people with fund raising ideas.

*Charli Danielsen, Conservation Coordinator
charlid@pacbell.net*

Wild Hog Creek

I'm half way down a steep, grassy, southwest facing slope - every 15 feet or so are terraced 6 inch wide animal trails, making easy going towards the roaring creek - when I stop dead in my tracks.

In all its majesty - looms a 12-foot jutting rock splinter with a full mantle of mosses, polypody ferns, sprays of phacelia, and a city of dudleyas. Twenty feet to the left tinkles a seasonal creek - lively splashes sprinkling bright green jumbled rocks and clinging hopefults. Here in the ravine, the prickle-leaved interior live oak is also present in the dwarf shrub form - under the skirts of the pioneer bays.

Adding texture to the landscape are the occasional silhouettes of the deciduous buckeye, big leaf maple, black and valley oaks (the monarch of California's oaks), and the evergreen canyon and interior live oaks (Fremont's "principal tree of the forest"), California bay, Douglas fir, tanbark oak, and madrone - which all loosely clothe the severe grade.

In anticipation, I'd opened my eyes a dozen times so as not to miss the newly waning moon accompanying a pink and dreamy dawn - heavy with mist that made fjords of the ridges below, and wet my face on the porch. The day before, it had rained two inches - about 2.5% of the annual survey, and it'd be cloudy all day. Chestnut-backed chickadees cheeped at the edge of the bay grove behind the house.

This ridge is in Sunset Western Garden Zone 15 - a zone found throughout Alameda and Contra Costa Counties - but with a very different result than our East Bay plant communities. Located just North of Jenner, and three ridges inland, this ranch is in a section of Sonoma County that was heavily logged in both the 1940's and 60's. Many roads were roughly carved into nearly clear-cut hills to extract the Douglas fir and redwood - the lumber mills' fodder.

I imagine that a hundred years ago this hillside was covered with richly mixed woodland with occasional open wildflower meadows on the thinner soils of rock outcroppings. Imagine this place in two frames: before and after the soil grading and removal of so many trees so quickly - such a rapid and abrupt exposure to full sun and pounding rains likely requires a nearly complete plant community change.

Locals claim that the annual rainfall, 100 years ago, was almost twice as much as today's 60-80 inches. The many tall trees (redwoods and Douglas fir both grow over 250 feet tall) that once lined the ridges, inclines,

and major creeks, would have served as funnels and sponges for the watershed. So much is now missing - centuries of topsoil and the bio-diverse old growth forest with its relatively stable succession. Can it return? In what version?

Today, Wild Hog Creek is running fairly clear - although the indigenous rainbow trout/steelhead are rarely sighted, and many of the other nearby brown streams demonstrate how the top soil is leaving even today. Vineyard development, road cuts, exotic wild hogs and grazing livestock - all contribute to this damaging loss to the community.

A hermit thrush sits astride a glowing red manzanita bough, and flits off. I can't quite figure out why this mini manzanita grove is here, just 25 feet above the creek line, but not higher up the slopes. Uphill, a horned lark sings on the only coyote bush I've seen today - a reminder of the coastal chaparral so nearby. On very still nights in the summer, it is possible to hear the roar of the breakers on the rocks near Fort Ross, and the stars don't seem to be far away.

A Douglas fir left unscathed is producing baby seedlings under the oaks and bays- and along the creek, the redwoods' ability to stump sprout brings hope. Coming back - I dream 50 years, then 100, 300. What will it look like then?

Sarah Ginskey

Activities of Others

Volunteers Sought to Staff Native Plant Gardens on Spring Garden Tour

We would like to find about 100 volunteers enthusiastic about natives to spend a morning or afternoon greeting tour participants and answering questions for the 16 native plant gardens we will have on the Sunday, May 2, **Natural Garden Tour**. We are seeking volunteers who are especially knowledgeable about California native plants, and interested in promoting gardening with natives to others.

Benefits to volunteers include a pre-tour meeting with the owner and private tour of the garden you will be staffing, a guaranteed tour reservation for the half day you are free, and a Natural Garden Tour t-shirt. Gardens will be assigned on a first-come basis. For more information, please e-mail Kathy Kramer at Kathy@KathyKramerConsulting.net, or 510-236-9558 between 9 am and 9 pm.

continued on page 6

Activities of Others

continued from page 5

Saturday, February 7, 9 am – 3 pm, **Friends of Alhambra Creek** will be celebrating and planting natives in Strentzel Meadow. Come join us, put in a native plant or two (or more), help restore this meadow and receive a free Alhambra Creek Watershed Map.

Parking is very limited at the site, so we will have a shuttle van to ferry folks from the John Swett Elementary School parking lot to the site and back.

Friends of Alhambra Creek
925-229-1371
PO Box 2315
Martinez, CA 94553
Meetings and events are listed on cocowaterweb.org
Direct link:
<http://www.aoinstitute.org/cocowaterweb/members/friendsofalhambracreek.htm>

Fridays, 10 am, join **Friends of Five Creeks'** Weekday Weed Warriors. Our group gathers once a week at restoration sites from Berkeley to Richmond, enjoying the outdoors while attacking invasives. All are welcome. Contact Susan Schwartz, Friends of Five Creeks, 510-848 9358 or f5creeks@aol.com to get on the email list.

Saturday, April 17, 2004, 10 am to 3 pm, **California Native Plant Sale, Regional Parks Botanic Garden**, Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley (Wildcat Canyon Road & South Park Drive, near the Brazil Building)

Please bring cardboard boxes, if possible, to carry your purchases, and an umbrella if it rains. Refreshments available. 510-841-8732, www.nativeplants.org

Native Here Nursery

Volunteers are always needed whenever the nursery is open: Fridays, 9 to noon, and Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm. No need to phone ahead, just show up at 101 Golf Course Drive in Tilden Park (across from Golf Course Main Entrance).

Wonderful plants in the lily family are green and budding. Plant now before the dry season starts. Do you have empty spots in your dappled shade garden? Consider planting masses of *Tellima grandiflora*. It is a wonderful bunching perennial ground cover with persistent greenery. Small flower groups at the ends

of longish stems make the inflorescence ideal as background in flower arrangements.

Vegetation Management Almanac for the East Bay Hills is available at the nursery for \$25 per copy. Buy one now to plan your assault on the weeds that are starting to emerge, and to plan your year-round maintenance for fire safety.

Charli Danielssen



Douglas's violet (*Viola douglasii*), seen here with *Lasthenia gracilis* in Henry Coe State Park, is an early spring flower of open grasslands in the Bay Area and elsewhere. It is easily distinguished from other local Violets by its deeply divided leaves with linear lobes. In the Bay Area, the only other violet with leaves that have multiple narrow lobes is *V. sheltonii*, but this is rare here. It has leaves that are more fan-shaped and seldom flowers at its few Bay Area locations. *Photo and notes by John Game.*

Board of Directors

Elected Officers

President:

Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna St., Berkeley 94704, 841-4681,
pepe1066@comcast.net

Vice President, Administration:

Laura Baker, 79 Roble Road, Berkeley, 94705, 849-1409,
Lbake66@aol.com

Treasurer:

Holly Forbes, 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530, 234-2913, w/643-8040

Secretaries:**Recording:**

Barbara Malloch Leitner, 2 Parkway Ct., Orinda 94563, 925-253-8300,
bleitner@pacbell.net

Corresponding:

Nathan Smith, 545 Everett St., El Cerrito, 94530, 559-8286,
ncsmith@uclink.berkeley.edu

Past President

Tony Morosco, c/o Calflora, 937 San Pablo Ave., Albany 94706
w/528-5426, tony-morosco@calflora.org

Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna St., Berkeley 94704, 841-4681,
pepe1066@comcast.net

Committee Coordinators

Bay Leaf Mailing:

Holly Forbes, 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530, 234-2913, w/643-8040,
hforbes@uclink4.berkeley.edu

Book and Poster Sales:

Vacant

Bryophytes:

Dan Norris, 802 Lexington Ave., El Cerrito 94530, 435-2004,
dhnorris@uclink.berkeley.edu

Conservation:

Vacant

East Bay Public Lands:

Peter Rauch, 526-8155, peterr@socrates.berkeley.edu

Education:

Vacant

Field Trips:

Janet Gawthrop, 360 Monte Vista Ave. #214, Oakland 94610, 654
3066, _janetg24@excite.com

Grants:

Sandy McCoy, 1311 Bay View Place, Berkeley 94708,
wbmccoy@earthlink.net

Committee Coordinators

Hospitality:

Irene Wilkinson, 440 Camino Sobrante, Orinda 94563, 925-254-3675

Media:

Elizabeth Bade, 2151 Carroll Rd., Walnut Creek 94596, 937-8006

Membership:

Delia Taylor, 1851 Catalina Ave., Berkeley 94707, 527-3912,
deliataylor@mac.com

Native Herb Nursery:

Charli Danielsen, 101 Golf Course Dr., Berkeley 94708, 549-0211,
charlid@pacbell.net

Native Plant Restoration Team:

Sarah Ginskey, 1096 Miller Avenue, Berkeley 94708, 558-8139,
sawginskey@sbcglobal.net

Plant Communities:

Susan Bainbridge, 2408 Parker St., Berkeley 94704, 548-2918,
suebain@SSCL.Berkeley.EDU

Plant Sale:

Shirley McPheeters, 104 Ivy Dr., Orinda 94563, 925-376-4095
Phoebe Watts, 1419 Grant St., Berkeley 94703, 525-6614,
phwatts@cs.com

Plant Sale Publicity:

Elaine Jackson, 3311 Estudillo St., Martinez 94553, 925-372-0687,
elainejx@mindspring.com

Posters:

Vacant

Programs:

Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornica@earthlink.net

Rare Plants:

John Game, 1155 Spruce St., Berkeley 94707, 527-7855

Regional Parks Botanic Garden Liaison:

Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornica@earthlink.net

Unusual Plants:

Dianne Lake, 1050 Bayview Farm Rd. #121, Pinole 94564, 741-8066,
diannelake@yahoo.com

Recorded Chapter Information: 464-4977

CNPS Home Page: www.cnps.org

East Bay Chapter CNPS Home Page:

www.ebcnps.org

**Bay Leaf &
Board meeting minutes online**

Chapter CNPS-EB-Alerts E-mail List:

Find out more; email to listserv@usobi.org with:

INFO CNPS-EB Alerts

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

I wish to affiliate with:

____ East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

____ Other _____

E-mail _____

(optional)

Membership category:

- Student, Retired, Limited income, \$20
- Individual, Library, \$35
- Household, Family, or Group, \$45
- Supporting, \$75
- Plant lover, \$100
- Benefactor, \$500
- Life, \$1000

Mail application and check to: California Native Plant Society, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento CA 95816



Coastal Mitrewort or Bishop's Cap (*Mitella ovalis*)

The highly dissected petals and the stamens, which are alternate to them in this *Mitella*, are all attached to the hypanthium. The styles in the center are two lobed at the tip. The pale color and deeply dissected outlines suggest pollination by a night-flying moth. These tiny flowers are in bloom from April through May and when the seeds form, this diminutive cup will be filled with shiny, black pearls. The seeds are bounced out of the "splash cup" by raindrops.

This is a plant of wet woodlands and deeply shaded banks below 1000 meters from Marin County to British Columbia. The type locality is in Mendocino County. "Mitra" is Latin for a cap, "mitella" being the diminutive. *Photo and notes by Margaret Ely.*

**California Native Plant Society
East Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station
Berkeley CA 94705**

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Oakland, CA
Permit No. 2018